

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

December 04, 2014

A Finance Committee meeting was held Thursday, December 04, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. in the County Administration Building, Quorum Court Meeting Room, 215 East Central, Bentonville, Arkansas.

Committee Members Present: Allen, J. Harrison, Chiocco, Curry, Moore, Moehring
Absent: Jones

Others Present: JPs Adams, Meyers, K. Harrison, County Judge Bob Clinard, County Attorney George Spence, Administrator of General Services John Sudduth, Administrator of Public Services Jeff Clark, Fire Marshall Marc Trollinger, Director of Information Technologies Eddie Mahar, Comptroller Brenda Guenther, Accounting Manager Mike Crandall, Ozark Regional Transit Executive Director Joel Gardner

Media: Tom Sissom

Chair JP Allen called the meeting to order.

Public Comments

None

JP Allen stated that in the 2015 budget process, \$15,000 has been set aside for Ozark Regional Transit service. He stated that when Ozark Regional Transit receives support from the small cities that the county would match any supplement money up to \$64,000.

Ozark Regional Transit Executive Director Joel Gardner stated that they already have meetings set up with officials from small Benton County cities.

Grants Administrator Report

Comptroller Brenda Guenther reported that there were no changes to the Grants Report.

Sales Tax Numbers

Brenda Guenther reported that August sales tax receipts were up 9.06% over last year for a year-to-date increase of 2.19%. She added that overall, we are up \$146,819 for the same period last year.

Jail Collections

Brenda Guenther reported that Jail Collections were \$41,600 for November and \$1,500,674 for the year. She stated that \$1.5 million was budgeted for 2014.

Fuel Analysis

Brenda Guenther reported that the Road Department is at 82% of their fuel budget, while the Sheriff's Department is at 96% of their budget. She stated that average unleaded fuel costs have

decreased 4.86% to \$2.35 per gallon and diesel decreased 12.7% to \$2.68per gallon, and that \$88,247 has been transferred back to the Road Department.

Fund Summary

Brenda Guenther reported on the Monthly Fund Summary, stating that 91.67% is the target and that the General Fund is at 87.01%, all other funds are at 81.32%, and the overall budget is at 83.92%.

Overtime Analysis

Brenda Guenther reported that through twenty-four pay periods out of twenty-six, overtime usage is at 56.81%.

Personnel Services Available

Brenda Guenther reported that the county has saved approximately \$513,780 in personnel costs this year.

Ordinance Request- Timber Tax

Melsene Carter County Tax Collector Financial Administrator explained that this ordinance request is to set a penalty of up to twenty-five percent for delinquent timber taxes. She stated that at this time there is not an ordinance setting a penalty.

County Attorney George Spence stated this is setting the penalty for delinquent timber taxes as provided in Arkansas Code §26-61-109(a) and that this ordinance request is to set the penalty amount at ten percent.

After some discussion by several JP's JP Moehring made a motion to approve and forward the ordinance request to the December 9, 2014 Committee of the Whole agenda, seconded by JP J. Harrison.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

Benton County Cleanup Report

Administrator of General Services John Sudduth reported on the fall 2014 cleanup costs. He stated that the fall cleanup cost nearly \$40,000. He stated that because of safety reasons, the rain forced the event to end after about 2 ½ hours.

Lengthy discussion was held on how to cut costs to hold the spring and fall cleanups and to budget for the cleanups in the 2015 budget.

John Sudduth reported that because of the hazardous conditions and safety of the employees that starting January 1, 2015 they will stop holding the Saturday shredding event.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.